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U. S. AGRICULTURAL TRADE
with
WEST ASIA AND AFRICA

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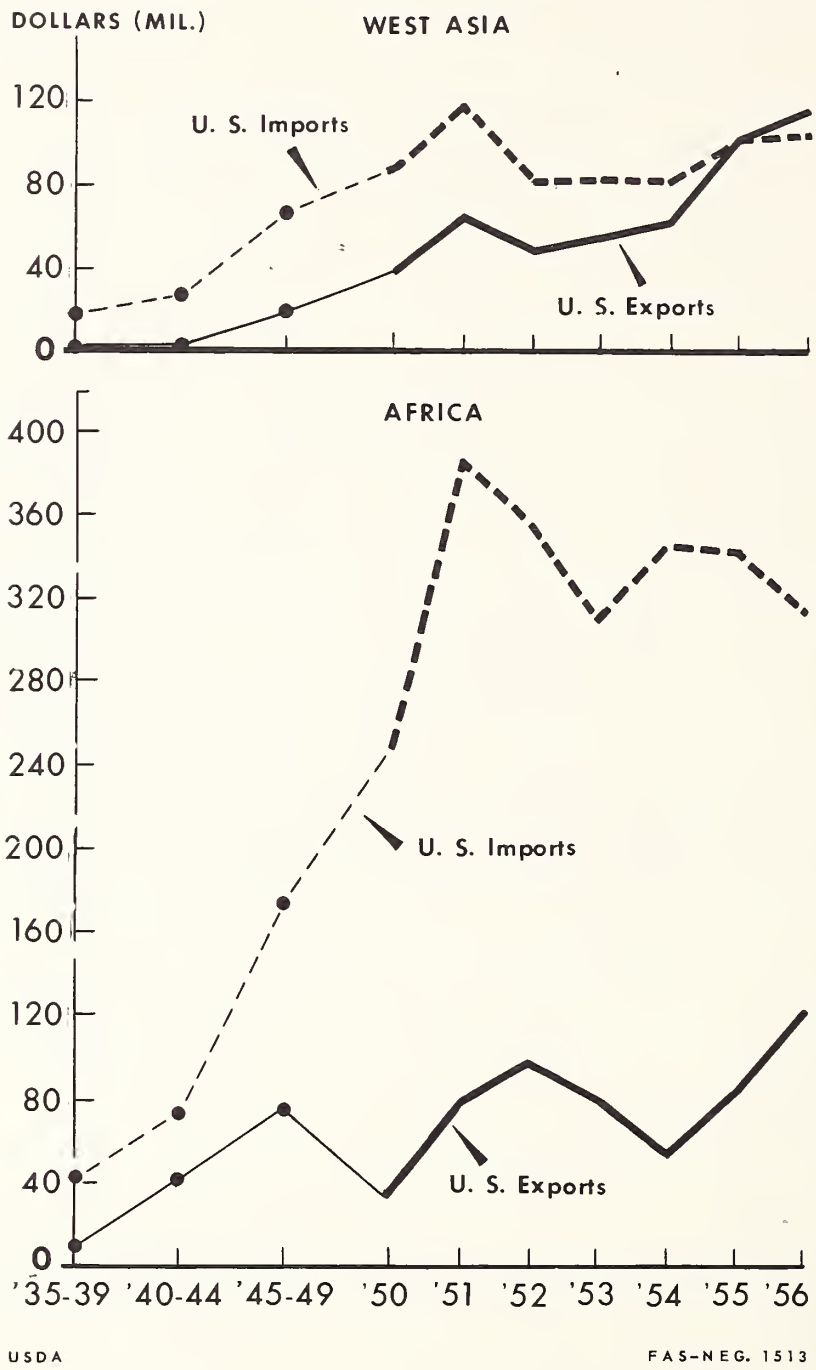
UNITED STATES AGRICULTURAL TRADE WITH WEST ASIA AND AFRICA



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U. S. AGRICULTURAL TRADE WITH WEST ASIA AND AFRICA

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Our knowledge of economic and social conditions in Africa and West Asia indicates strongly that a dynamic situation is in the making. Great developments and changes are taking place, which will have a marked impact upon future agricultural trade. Emerging policies by several young nations, large-scale programs for agricultural development, rapidly increasing populations, rising standards of living, and development of mineral resources and industries are potent forces in this field. Their trends and effects will be increasingly significant to United States agriculture in the next five or ten years.

The present report is one step toward providing information on this important area. It consists of a comprehensive statistical presentation of United States agricultural trade with all the countries of Africa and West Asia. Figures are given by countries from 1935 to 1956, and also by commodity groups and principal commodities from 1953 to 1956, covering both exports and imports. The statistical details are highlighted and summarized in a brief text accompanying the tables. It reviews the situation by principal commodities and important countries. Thus the reader can get a general view of the trade picture, and pursue pertinent details according to his interest. Trends of trade are indicated for the periods covered. Analysis and interpretation of these data, with indications of future trade possibilities, will be the subject of another report to follow.

West Asia and Africa--and the rest of the underdeveloped countries of the world--have awakened to the promise that an improved agriculture holds out. Their leaders are determined that the countries will benefit from the adoption of advanced techniques.

They see what has happened in the highly industrialized countries, where agricultural production has reached high levels of efficiency and abundance. Tremendous forces of scientific research, advanced technology, extension, and sound organization have combined to bring about this revolution.

Yet, with tremendous surpluses available in the United States and in a few other countries, a large portion of the world population cannot satisfy its basic needs for food and fiber. The problem has ceased to be primarily that of inadequate production. It has become increasingly a matter of efficient distribution to meet growing needs and desires for consumption all over the world. International trade--expanded, liberalized, and broadened in its concepts--provides the key for a dynamic solution.

To play its role effectively and progressively, U. S. agricultural trade must depend increasingly upon a thorough grasp of facts, factors, and forces that operate in the economies of various countries. This is essential for the guidance of trade activities and policies, not only to meet immediate problems and benefit from current market possibilities; but also more importantly to adjust to arising trends and keep advised of longrange potentials. Incipient trends today will largely determine the market realities of the next five or ten years. Reliable information on such trends, based upon facts interpreted in the context of the total country economy, is the fundamental tool of a growing agricultural trade.

Review by countries shows that Israel, Turkey, and Lebanon accounted for 81 percent of U. S. farm exports to West Asia in 1956. Israel took $48 million, slightly less than all other West Asian countries combined. The amount taken by Turkey increased by $31 million from 1954 through 1956. Saudi Arabia, our fifth best customer in West Asia in 1956, was the largest West Asian market for U. S. agricultural commodities during the 1945-49 period. Total purchases by Syria in 1956 were more than three times the $316,000 taken in 1955.

Egypt has been our best customer in Africa, taking farm products valued at $48 million in 1956. Our next best African customers were the Union, Morocco, and Nigeria. U. S. agricultural exports to Algeria declined from an average of $20 million during 1945-49 to an average of $4 million during 1950-54.

TABLE 1.--United States agricultural exports: Value by country, West Asia and Africa, averages 1935-54, annual 1953-56

Country	Average				Annual			
	1935-39	1940-44	1945-49	1950-54	1953	1954	1955	1956
	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.
West Asia:								
Israel (Palestine).	1/ 800	1/ 700	1/ 5,300	32,573	33,890	34,998	45,094	47,508
Turkey	500	100	2,400	3,494	1,266	5,043	28,616	35,792
Lebanon	(2/)	(3/)	800	6,178	5,136	8,947	12,364	9,697
Iran	(3/)	200	1,000	877	1,473	1,171	3,535	9,573
Saudi Arabia	100	(3/)	5,800	6,629	7,929	6,792	6,429	7,531
Syria	100	(3/)	900	819	320	850	316	1,000
State of Bahrein	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)	317	446	847	773	876
Kuwait	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)	279	399	693	766	785
Iraq	(3/)	2,100	500	606	451	743	640	780
Jordan	(4/)	(4/)	(4/)	606	1,529	1,065	1,556	717
Other	(5/)	(5/)	600	505	42	53	283	213
Total	1,500	3,100	17,300	52,883	52,881	61,202	100,372	124,472
Africa:								
Egypt	1,600	18,200	12,500	22,223	31,332	11,722	33,842	48,527
Union of South Africa	1,200	2,700	11,900	13,238	18,690	11,324	12,125	13,039
Morocco 6/	100	2,500	6,400	4,104	2,373	5,550	3,364	9,323
Nigeria	800	800	2,700	4,839	5,164	5,510	6,506	6,869
Algeria	200	9,300	19,500	4,005	794	930	890	6,449
Tunisia	100	700	1,800	659	188	217	319	5,741
French West Africa	600	1,800	5,000	615	644	829	1,356	5,557
Belgian Congo	100	1,200	2,300	3,285	3,185	3,310	3,743	4,389
Ghana	800	1,000	2,200	4,159	4,119	3,110	4,808	4,206
Canary Islands	100	100	600	2,574	2,027	637	4,504	2,986
Libya	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)	262	315	997	2,589	2,547
Liberia	100	400	1,100	1,254	824	1,935	2,298	2,526
Angola	(3/)	200	500	1,039	1,397	1,106	1,524	1,260
Fed. of Rhodesia and Nyasaland 7/	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)	266	279	650	528	1,077
British East Africa	200	700	1,100	1,679	4,153	921	1,139	991
Tangier	(3/)	100	1,100	712	350	1,312	748	634
Ethiopia	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)	1,062	1,686	2,123	793	601
British West Africa	1,700	600	400	329	503	369	458	533
Mozambique	200	200	1,100	967	758	130	229	423
Cameroons	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)	168	202	393	269	294
French Somaliland	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)	94	127	226	348	278
Sudan	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)	4	2	1	464	50
Others	600	900	3,800	1,969	1,620	784	742	2,601
Total	8,400	41,400	74,000	69,506	80,732	54,086	83,586	120,901

1/ Including Jordan. 2/ Included with Syria. 3/ If any, included in others. 4/ Included with Israel. 5/ If any, less than $50,000. 6/ Prior to 1956 included only French Morocco. 7/ Northern and Southern Rhodesia until July, 1954.

TABLE 2.--United States agricultural exports: Major commodity groups to countries of West Asia and Africa, 1953-56

Country and calendar year	Grains and preps.	Cotton unmfd.	Fats, oils, and oilseeds 1/	Tobacco unmfd.	Dairy products	Meats 2/	Vegetables, fruits, and nuts	Relief and charity 3/
West Asia:								
Israel:	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.
1953.	12,813	2,452	2,679	0	1,398	65	738	11,643
1954.	7,454	2,950	6,687	151	3,396	163	2,295	11,902
1955.	21,858	3,131	6,397	314	10,301	52	302	509
1956.	24,786	2,786	7,016	213	3,078	5,370	1,061	1,455
Turkey:								
1953.	10	0	15	11	13	0	10	3
1954.	4,683	0	4	0	21	4	4	110
1955.	23,652	0	3,912	0	10	11	0	165
1956.	21,661	0	4,765	0	7,213	5	0	78
Lebanon:								
1953.	2,733	28	75	24	531	82	340	1,172
1954.	2,079	0	117	0	3,696	33	501	2,280
1955.	6,985	0	576	0	4,000	35	210	379
1956.	5,312	776	209	51	2,698	37	253	24
Iran:								
1953.	7	0	116	0	141	30	21	0
1954.	0	0	949	0	99	1	3	49
1955.	1,801	0	398	0	273	15	15	872
1956.	5,633	0	317	0	2,792	0	57	545
Saudi Arabia:								
1953.	5,883	0	117	0	366	452	930	9
1954.	5,164	0	0	0	291	356	768	1
1955.	4,499	0	0	0	176	504	920	(4/)
1956.	5,417	0	50	0	349	458	1,032	21
Others:								
1953.	1,361	0	331	447	242	257	502	36
1954.	759	0	599	1,037	434	84	621	667
1955.	1,202	20	135	983	448	65	636	574
1956.	1,039	0	1,033	527	452	65	687	163
Total West Asia:								
1953.	22,807	2,480	3,333	482	2,691	886	2,541	12,863
1954.	20,139	2,950	8,356	1,188	7,937	641	4,192	15,009
1955.	59,997	3,151	11,418	1,297	15,208	682	2,083	2,499
1956.	63,848	3,563	13,390	791	16,582	5,935	3,090	2,286
Africa:								
Egypt:								
1953.	23,446	0	2,948	3,650	99	25	158	208
1954.	2,292	0	3,605	3,632	1,159	3	108	490
1955.	1,745	0	3,092	6,258	1,528	0	142	20,800
1956.	33,003	0	4,172	4,170	978	0	44	5,945
Union of South Africa:								
1953.	14,329	54	3,044	0	137	174	87	0
1954.	4,073	822	5,262	18	157	12	199	0
1955.	4,112	738	5,583	138	145	302	471	1
1956.	2,027	2,625	6,077	456	132	391	596	0
Morocco:								
1953.	26	1,656	73	124	14	38	138	105
1954.	0	2,210	2,194	103	55	162	341	154
1955.	158	951	1,258	58	33	108	324	160
1956.	1,409	1,502	5,404	71	42	58	318	192
Nigeria:								
1953.	2,127	0	0	2,997	0	0	0	14
1954.	2,534	0	0	2,962	0	0	0	0
1955.	3,179	0	0	3,292	6	0	0	22
1956.	3,741	0	0	3,093	17	0	0	14
Algeria:								
1953.	10	127	303	351	0	1	0	0
1954.	0	197	415	314	0	4	0	0
1955.	22	135	637	115	0	0	1	1
1956.	2,818	95	3,041	420	0	0	2	45

TABLE 2.--United States agricultural exports. Major commodity groups to countries of West Asia and Africa 1953-56-- Continued

Country and calendar year	Grains and preps.	Cotton unmfd.	Fats, oils, and oilseeds 1/	Tobacco unmfd.	Dairy products	Meats 2/	Vegetables, fruits, and nuts	Relief and charity 3/
Tunisia:	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.
1953.	0	0	0	99	8	0	50	14
1954.	4	0	0	145	13	0	0	32
1955.	2	0	0	164	5	0	0	146
1956.	5,091	0	0	603	0	0	6	43
French West Africa:								
1953.	6	0	0	628	0	5	4	1
1954.	3	0	0	804	20	0	1	0
1955.	532	0	0	813	0	1	2	0
1956.	5,202	120	0	124	63	1	0	0
Belgian Congo:								
1953.	1,856	0	0	365	375	135	246	29
1954.	1,400	0	0	682	656	202	217	15
1955.	1,719	0	0	563	804	160	330	36
1956.	2,493	0	30	574	703	43	344	37
Ghana:								
1953.	2,822	0	0	1,278	0	0	0	6
1954.	2,044	0	0	1,065	0	0	1	0
1955.	3,587	0	0	1,204	15	0	1	0
1956.	2,940	0	0	1,099	0	7	0	158
Canary Islands:								
1953.	1,851	0	0	110	0	55	0	0
1954.	373	0	0	213	0	43	2	0
1955.	4,323	0	0	181	0	0	0	0
1956.	2,383	0	0	535	0	0	0	16
Libya:								
1953.	266	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1954.	994	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1955.	2,448	0	0	0	119	1	5	0
1956.	2,199	0	0	0	98	0	13	229
Liberia:								
1953.	179	0	53	34	82	169	111	0
1954.	1,258	0	88	31	39	164	125	12
1955.	1,627	0	64	0	38	212	98	0
1956.	1,744	0	117	7	15	224	137	20
Angola:								
1953.	1,198	0	1	49	69	20	24	3
1954.	1,014	0	1	47	21	2	20	1
1955.	1,124	0	0	325	0	16	17	(4/)
1956.	855	0	0	318	27	13	41	0
Others:								
1953.	5,142	1,638	322	2,203	42	91	79	7
1954.	1,624	2,235	1,092	1,347	40	55	98	65
1955.	1,541	975	781	1,838	106	137	92	133
1956.	680	1,116	2,741	909	127	147	92	85
Total Africa:								
1953.	53,258	3,475	6,744	11,888	826	713	897	387
1954.	17,613	5,464	12,657	11,363	2,160	647	1,113	769
1955.	26,119	2,799	11,415	14,949	2,799	937	1,483	21,298
1956.	67,141	5,458	21,582	12,379	2,202	884	1,593	6,784

1/ Includes principally lard, tallow, cottonseed oil, soybean oil, linseed oil, soybeans, flaxseed, and peanuts. 2/ Includes live animals, meats, and meat products. 3/ Principally agricultural commodities donated by Commodity Credit Corporation to private welfare agencies for overseas distribution. Shipments in recent years consist largely of dairy products, grains, and cottonseed oil. 4/ Less than $500.00.

Review by commodity shows that grains and preparations accounted for 56 percent of our agricultural exports to West Asia and Africa in 1956. About three-fourths of the $131 million in grains and grains preparations shipped to these areas were made up of wheat and wheat flour--going mostly to Egypt, Turkey, and Israel. Traditionally, numerous West Asian and African countries receive small amounts of rice, corn, and corn meal from the United States.

Shipments of dairy products, fats, oils, and oilseeds to West Asia and Africa have increased by more than three times since 1953. U. S. exports of vegetables, fruits, and nuts to these countries, while small, have also continued to increase. Unmanufactured tobacco from the United States has a very limited market in West Asia, however, African countries have taken an average of $13 million in U. S. tobacco since 1953.

Cottonseed oil shipments to these regions totaled $9 million in 1956. Only three years prior to this time the amount of this commodity going to these countries had been negligible. In 1956 the $3 million in cotton exports to West Asia went almost entirely to Israel. Sales of cotton to Africa ($5.5 million) were about double those of the previous year. Increased shipments to the Union of South Africa and Morocco, our two best cotton markets in Africa, accounted for this outstanding increase.

TABLE 3.--United States agricultural exports: Principal commodities to important customers in West Asia and Africa, 1953-56

Country	1953	1954	1955	1956
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Wheat and wheat flour:	dol.	dol.	dol.	dol.
West Asia:				
Turkey	0	4,683	12,357	19,946
Israel	11,557	6,330	14,747	18,933
Iran	0	0	1,808	5,595
Lebanon	2,494	2,000	6,892	5,201
Saudi Arabia	3,476	2,798	3,529	4,445
State of Bahrein	152	469	446	433
Kuwait	69	222	481	364
Others	1,079	26	90	122
Total	18,827	16,528	40,350	55,039
Africa:				
Egypt	23,446	2,292	1,749	32,876
Tunisia	0	0	0	5,081
Nigeria	2,126	2,533	3,179	3,741
Ghana	2,822	2,044	3,587	2,926
Algeria	0	0	5	2,817
French West Africa	4	1	15	2,775
Libya	266	994	2,448	2,197
Union of South Africa	5,668	4,073	3,999	1,796
Belgian Congo	1,417	743	1,285	1,883
Morocco	3	11	43	1,303
Angola	1,180	1,003	1,124	844
Canary Islands	1,750	376	3,177	838
British W. Africa	498	366	420	457
Others	1,510	1,355	1,113	1,457
Total	40,690	15,791	22,144	60,991
Tobacco:				
West Asia:				
Jordan	363	515	910	527
Israel	0	151	314	213
Others	108	522	73	51
Total	471	1,188	1,297	791

TABLE 3.--United States agricultural exports: Principal commodities to important customers in West Asia and Africa, annual, 1953-56--Continued

Country	1953	1954	1955	1956
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Tobacco, contd.:	dol.	dol.	dol.	dol.
Africa:				
Egypt	3,650	3,632	6,258	4,170
Nigeria	2,997	2,962	3,292	3,093
Ghana	1,278	1,065	1,204	1,099
British East Africa	888	700	1,005	869
Tunisia	99	145	310	603
Belgian Congo	365	682	563	574
Canary Islands	110	213	181	535
Union of South Africa	117	0	138	456
Algeria	304	314	116	420
Angola	49	47	325	318
French West Africa	628	804	810	124
Others	1,403	799	747	118
Total	11,888	11,363	14,949	12,379
Corn and corn meal:				
West Asia:				
Israel	1,256	0	11	2,034
Turkey	10	0	7	300
Iraq	0	0	1	69
Saudi Arabia	0	3	10	14
Lebanon	0	3	11	3
Others	0	0	1	3
Total	1,266	6	41	2,423
Africa:				
Canary Islands	0	0	1,146	1,546
French West Africa	0	0	0	65

TABLE 3.--United States agricultural exports: Principal commodities to important customers in West Asia and Africa, annual, 1953-56--Continued

Country	1953	1954	1955	1956
Rice (milled and rough):	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
West Asia:	dol.	dol.	dol.	dol.
Turkey	0	0	0	1,412
Saudi Arabia	2,209	2,199	8	788
Israel	20	66	61	98
Others	179	42	8	90
Total	2,408	2,307	77	2,388
Africa:				
French West Africa	0	0	517	1,972
Liberia	0	1,059	1,403	1,487
Union of South Africa	0	95	113	149
Others	12	13	24	28
Total	12	1,167	2,057	3,636
Cotton:				
West Asia:				
Israel	2,452	2,950	3,131	2,786
Lebanon	28	0	0	776
Others	0	0	20	0
Total	2,480	2,950	3,151	3,562
Africa:				
Union of South Africa	54	822	738	2,625
Morocco	1,656	2,210	950	1,502
Ethiopia	1,638	2,086	716	507
Federation of Rhodesia & Nyasaland	0	0	0	438
French Somaliland	0	149	259	171
Others	127	197	135	215
Total	3,475	5,464	2,798	5,458
Tallow (inedible):				
West Asia:				
Turkey	0	0	0	860
Israel	173	146	160	338
Iraq	159	160	56	222
Iran	56	201	324	181
Others	2	0	0	0
Total	390	507	540	1,601
Africa:				
Union of South Africa	3,044	4,348	4,943	5,438
Egypt	2,948	3,605	2,992	4,002
Federation of Rhodesia & Nyasaland	238	586	418	525
Morocco	73	189	202	636
Tangier	12	3	178	22
Others	82	62	72	99
Total	6,397	8,793	8,805	10,722
Soybeans:				
West Asia:				
Israel	1,505	3,066	5,478	4,219
Others	12	1	0	0
Total	1,517	3,067	5,478	4,219
Africa	62	0	345	0

TABLE 3.--United States agricultural exports: Principal commodities to important customers in West Asia and Africa, annual, 1953-56--Continued

Country	1953	1954	1955	1956
Corn and corn meal, contd.	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Africa, contd.:	dol.	dol.	dol.	dol.
Liberia	5	16	8	10
Morocco	5	31	49	9
Union of South Africa	8,686	0	0	4
Angola	5	8	12	1
Egypt	624	17	4	0
British East Africa	3,212	0	0	0
Others	31	10	28	16
Total	12,568	82	1,247	1,651
Cottonseed oil:				
West Asia:				
Turkey	0	0	3,912	3,846
Israel	0	6	759	2,348
Others	10	5	13	3
Total	10	11	4,684	6,197
Africa:				
Morocco	0	1,225	913	850
Algeria	0	415	319	1,997
Others	4	11	21	0
Total	4	1,651	1,253	2,847
Dairy products:				
West Asia:				
Turkey	13	21	10	7,213
Israel	1,398	3,396	10,301	3,078
Iran	141	99	273	2,792
Lebanon	531	3,696	4,000	2,698
Saudi Arabia	366	291	176	349
Others	242	434	448	452
Total	2,691	7,937	15,208	16,582
Africa:				
Egypt	99	1,159	1,528	978
Belgian Congo	375	656	804	703
Union of South Africa	137	157	145	132
Libya	0	0	119	98
Morocco	14	55	33	42
Liberia	82	39	38	40
Others	119	94	132	209
Total	826	2,160	2,799	2,202
Peanuts:				
West Asia:				
Israel	0	2,915	0	693
Kuwait	10	12	19	10
Others	20	8	22	14
Total	30	2,935	41	717
Africa:				
Morocco	13	18	35	31
Belgian Congo	2	1	5	6
Liberia	2	2	1	2
Others	0	2	14	9
Total	17	23	55	48

Review by country shows that our agricultural imports from West Asia came almost entirely from four countries--Turkey, Iran, Iraq, and Syria. Turkey supplied 49 percent, and the other three countries combined 42 percent of the $103 million in farm imports from this area in 1956.

The chief sources of agricultural imports from Africa in 1956 were the Belgian Congo, Nigeria, and British East Africa (each supplying over $35 million). Other important sources were Angola, Ghana (Gold Coast), Liberia, French West Africa, and Ethiopia (each supplying over $22 million). By value there was a substantial increase in farm imports from French West Africa and the Belgian Congo in 1955 and 1956 compared with the preceding five-year average; there was marked reduction for the Union of South Africa and Ghana.

TABLE 4.--United States agricultural imports: Value by country, West Asia and Africa, averages 1935-54, annual 1953-56

Country	Average				Annual			
	1935-39	1940-44	1945-49	1950-54	1953	1954	1955	1956
West Asia:	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.
Turkey	10,200	18,400	47,200	45,600	41,959	42,590	47,301	50,324
Iran	500	1,900	4,400	13,800	14,158	13,701	20,496	18,849
Iraq	4,100	4,300	7,200	11,800	12,044	10,933	13,703	14,610
Syria	1/ 2,700	1/ 1,300	1/ 6,300	11,400	8,976	7,624	10,878	10,439
Arabian Peninsula	(2/)	700	1,400	2,400	2,243	3,202	4,240	4,353
Lebanon	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)	4,000	2,010	2,481	2,790	3,547
Israel (Palestine)	100	(4/)	200	315	246	419	468	478
Saudi Arabia	800	100	200	115	77	103	38	189
Others	(4/)	(4/)	(4/)	100	23	87	53	253
Total	18,400	26,700	66,900	89,530	81,736	81,140	99,967	103,042
Africa:								
Belgian Congo	1,700	4,300	11,500	24,600	23,983	22,745	37,351	40,527
Nigeria	6,600	6,700	22,400	38,100	31,419	38,020	22,734	35,391
British East Africa	4,300	9,300	11,900	35,000	35,343	30,138	37,078	35,374
Angola	5/ 400	5/ 1,000	5/ 6,500	27,400	39,536	37,162	28,960	33,440
Ghana	8,800	9,400	36,800	53,900	48,679	48,538	36,913	30,565
Liberia	1,000	5,500	11,700	27,700	21,413	20,279	31,813	30,167
French West Africa	6/ 2,700	500	3,700	11,700	5,127	32,850	30,530	26,669
Ethiopia	400	400	4,500	23,300	32,955	33,546	31,059	23,957
Union of South Africa	3,500	20,000	25,700	31,800	19,508	21,658	24,063	15,646
Egypt	7/ 7,500	8,700	20,600	24,800	23,853	17,729	22,672	12,049
Madagascar	800	2,000	6,000	6,300	5,077	10,787	10,869	11,845
Cameroons	(8/)	300	800	6,200	5,671	12,300	10,309	5,802
Morocco	1,100	500	2,000	2,200	2,624	1,912	3,411	3,839
Mozambique	100	1,400	2,800	4,100	3,682	4,213	3,083	3,414
Sudan	(10/)	700	1,100	1,130	1,500	2,181	754	1,120
British West Africa	400	300	500	797	529	677	732	1,061
Portuguese W. Africa	(11/)	(11/)	(11/)	2,868	1,592	1,711	1,316	911
Algeria	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)	907	579	1,438	1,720	731
British Somaliland	(2/)	300	1,300	713	663	277	398	357
French Equatorial Africa	(8/)	100	900	224	216	575	313	362
Tunisia	1,200	100	100	1,037	635	1,677	1,647	75
Others	1,200	1,400	3,000	4,324	3,976	4,300	3,282	2,128
Total	41,700	72,900	173,800	329,100	308,560	344,713	341,007	313,430

1/ Including Lebanon. 2/ If any, included with others. 3/ Included with Syria. 4/ If any, less than $50,000. 5/ Including Portuguese West Africa. 6/ Including Cameroons. 7/ Including Sudan. 8/ Included with French West Africa. 9/ Prior to 1956 listed as French Morocco. 10/ Included with Egypt. 11/ Included with Angola.

In general, agricultural imports from West Asia and Africa are complementary to U. S. agriculture.

The most important noncompetitive commodities from these areas are coffee, cocoa beans, tea, drugs, spices, and rubber. These commodities made up approximately 63 percent of the $416 million in agricultural products from West Asia and Africa in 1956.

TABLE 5.--United States agricultural imports: Principal commodities from important suppliers in West Asia and Africa, 1953-56

Country	1953	1954	1955	1956
Coffee:				
West Asia:				
Arabian Peninsula:				
States other than Aden and Saudi Arabia	1,000 dol. 1,725	1,000 dol. 3,101	1,000 dol. 4,148	1,000 dol. 4,259
Aden	49	27	48	254
Saudi Arabia	0	0	78	131
Total	1,774	3,128	4,274	4,644
Africa:				
Angola	37,758	36,068	28,001	32,561
British East Africa	8,976	16,094	26,590	27,392
Belgian Congo	13,746	14,163	25,493	26,501
Ethiopia	29,541	30,749	27,520	18,941
French West Africa	67	16,530	8,268	14,842
Madagascar	0	3,039	4,560	5,105
Cameroons	58	748	155	1,026
Portuguese West Africa	680	938	1,039	811
British W. Africa	4	109	299	510
Ghana	966	248	50	292
Others	410	580	38	376
Total	92,206	119,266	122,013	128,357
Hides and skins:				
West Asia:				
Iran	2,112	1,213	1,377	4,042
Lebanon	201	153	85	414
Turkey	394	161	3	297
Iraq	36	14	27	95
Syria	6	8	1	(1/)
Others	46	101	135	111
Total	2,795	1,650	1,628	4,959
Africa:				
Nigeria	2,984	2,215	3,657	3,756
Ethiopia	2,656	2,357	2,983	2,769
British East Africa	2,329	841	2,052	1,671
Union of South Africa	680	401	640	601
Morocco	143	164	252	516
French West Africa	130	228	270	340
Belgian Congo	211	283	367	294
Others	2,545	1,675	1,712	2,033
Total	11,678	8,164	11,933	11,980

TABLE 5.--United States agricultural imports: Principal commodities from important suppliers in West Asia and Africa, 1953-56--Continued

Country	1953	1954	1955	1956
Wool:	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.
West Asia:				
Iran	8,510	8,796	13,266	10,855
Syria	7,110	6,259	9,844	9,759
Iraq	7,651	6,035	9,456	9,492
Lebanon	775	817	857	894
Turkey	724	242	656	610
Others	11	35	71	46
Total	24,781	22,184	34,150	31,656
Africa:				
Union of South Africa	17,513	20,468	20,852	14,202
Egypt	337	454	232	33
Others	14	38	0	37
Total	17,864	20,960	21,084	14,272
Sisal and henequen:				
Africa:				
British East Africa	18,246	8,359	4,449	2,637
Mozambique	2,210	2,039	1,535	1,148
Angola	682	759	198	76
Portuguese West Africa	285	370	191	36
Madagascar	174	536	13	(1/)
Others	191	265	8	19
Total	21,788	12,328	6,394	3,916
Cocoa or cocoa beans:				
Africa:				
Ghana	47,335	48,063	36,852	30,466
Nigeria	26,741	34,112	15,830	27,334
French West Africa	4,825	15,992	21,856	11,138
Cameroons	5,534	11,532	9,483	3,773
Spanish Africa	2,157	2,899	1,806	776
French Equatorial Africa	209	550	266	153
Liberia	181	184	305	42
Others	670	392	0	52
Total	87,652	113,724	86,398	73,734
Tobacco:				
West Asia:				
Turkey	35,624	35,364	37,146	41,707
Syria	1,308	1,057	899	464
Lebanon	3	36	201	180
Others	0	0	2	(1/)
Total	36,935	36,457	38,248	42,351
Africa:				
Fed. of Rhodesia and Nyasaland	195	92	12	(1/)
Others	0	1	1	(1/)
Total	195	93	13	0
Cotton:				
West Asia:				
Syria	16	34	0	(1/)
Others	5	0	3	(1/)
Total	21	34	3	0
Africa:				
Egypt	22,611	16,381	21,445	10,997
Sudan	728	1,508	231	356
Belgian Congo	166	12	11	(1/)
Others	0	4	0	(1/)
Total	23,505	17,905	21,687	11,353

TABLE 5.--United States agricultural imports: Principal commodities from important suppliers in West Asia and Africa, 1953-56--Continued

Country	1953	1954	1955	1956
Palm oil:	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.
Africa:				
Belgian Congo	2/ 2,864	2/ 3,962	2/ 4,070	2/ 6,792
Nigeria	162	479	113	(1/)
Others	30	8	0	(1/)
Total	3,056	4,449	4,183	6,792
Rubber:				
Africa:				
Liberia	21,163	19,889	31,490	29,992
Belgian Congo	4,039	1,476	2,324	4,864
Nigeria	1,113	681	2,544	3,738
French West Africa	20	17	82	200
Cameroons	71	19	384	1,086
Others	111	30	149	169
Total	26,517	22,112	36,973	40,049

1/ If any, less than $500.00 2/ Includes inedible palm kernel oil valued at $266,000 in 1953, $172,000 in 1954, $423,000 in 1955 and $2,627,000 in 1956.

However, when other commodities are considered which are also complementary to our farm products--for example, carpet wool from West Asia and sisal and henequen from various East African countries--less than 30 percent of the agricultural imports from these regions compete with U. S. agricultural production.

Thus, the principal competitive commodities for U. S. agriculture are tobacco, cotton, wool, hides and skins, and palm oil.

Nearly 51 percent of all unmanufactured tobacco imported by the United States in 1956 came from Turkey. Tobacco imports from Africa have declined in recent years to negligible quantities.

TABLE 6.--United States agricultural imports: Major commodity groups from countries of West Asia and Africa, 1953-56

Country and calendar year	Rubber	Cocoa, tea, and coffee	Drugs and spices	Vegetable oil 1/	Cotton and other fibers 2/	Wool	Hides and skins	Tobacco unmfd.
West Asia:								
Turkey:	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.
1953	0	0	1,789	247	0	724	394	35,624
1954	0	0	2,267	220	0	242	161	35,364
1955	0	0	3,455	216	3	656	3	37,146
1956	0	0	1,800	141	0	610	297	41,707
Iran:								
1953	0	0	1,251	342	0	8,510	2,112	0
1954	0	14	398	151	0	8,796	1,213	0
1955	0	0	495	59	0	13,266	1,377	2
1956	0	0	425	27	0	10,855	4,042	0
Iraq:								
1953	0	0	297	0	0	7,651	36	0
1954	0	0	388	0	0	6,035	14	0
1955	0	0	518	0	0	9,456	27	0
1956	0	0	677	0	0	9,492	95	0
Syria:								
1953	0	0	18	0	16	7,110	6	1,308
1954	0	0	32	44	34	6,259	8	1,057
1955	0	0	6	3	0	9,844	1	899
1956	0	0	0	0	0	9,759	0	464
Lebanon:								
1953	0	0	28	57	5	775	201	3
1954	0	0	5	24	0	817	153	36
1955	0	0	6	42	0	857	85	201
1956	0	0	0	0	0	894	414	180

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 6.--United States agricultural imports: Major commodity groups from countries of West Asia and Africa, 1953-56 --Continued

Country and calendar year	Rubber	Cocoa, tea, and coffee	Drugs and spices	Vegetable oil 1/	Cotton and other fibers 2/	Wool	Hides and skins	Tobacco unmfd.
Others:	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.
1953. . . .	0	1,798	0	39	0	11	46	0
1954. . . .	0	3,282	0	22	0	35	101	0
1955. . . .	0	4,344	3	3	0	71	135	0
1956. . . .	0	4,660	0	100	0	46	111	0
Total West Asia:								
1953. . . .	0	1,798	3,383	685	21	24,781	2,795	36,935
1954. . . .	0	3,296	3,090	461	34	22,184	1,650	36,457
1955. . . .	0	4,344	4,483	323	3	34,150	1,628	38,248
1956. . . .	0	4,660	2,902	268	0	31,656	4,959	42,351
Africa:								
Belgian Congo:								
1953. . . .	4,039	13,746	1,756	4,013	196	0	211	0
1954. . . .	1,476	14,179	1,668	5,084	29	0	283	0
1955. . . .	2,324	25,511	1,779	7,281	40	0	367	0
1956. . . .	4,864	26,564	1,457	7,261	0	0	294	0
Nigeria:								
1953. . . .	1,113	26,751	96	162	301	0	2,984	0
1954. . . .	681	34,113	70	479	449	0	2,215	0
1955. . . .	2,544	15,830	220	113	252	0	3,657	0
1956. . . .	3,738	27,755	166	0	237	0	3,756	0
British East Africa:								
1953. . . .	0	9,767	4,041	783	18,266	0	2,329	0
1954. . . .	0	17,390	1,307	139	5,132	0	841	0
1955. . . .	0	28,028	2,176	171	4,457	0	2,052	0
1956. . . .	0	29,003	1,840	100	2,301	0	1,671	0
Angola:								
1953. . . .	0	37,810	0	635	686	0	0	0
1954. . . .	0	36,079	0	108	770	0	0	0
1955. . . .	0	28,051	0	352	198	0	0	0
1956. . . .	0	32,561	0	461	66	0	0	0
Ghana:								
1953. . . .	83	48,448	1	0	147	0	0	0
1954. . . .	11	48,318	3	0	170	0	35	0
1955. . . .	0	36,902	4	0	0	0	7	0
1956. . . .	0	30,758	0	0	0	0	0	0
Liberia:								
1953. . . .	21,163	181	0	4	65	0	0	0
1954. . . .	19,889	320	0	0	70	0	0	0
1955. . . .	31,490	323	0	0	0	0	0	0
1956. . . .	29,992	151	0	0	0	0	0	0
Africa-contd.								
French West Africa:								
1953. . . .	20	4,892	25	56	3	0	130	0
1954. . . .	17	32,522	10	6	7	0	228	0
1955. . . .	82	30,140	12	13	0	0	270	0
1956. . . .	200	25,980	31	10	0	16	340	0

TABLE 6.--United States agricultural imports: Major commodity groups from countries of West Asia and Africa, 1953-56--Continued

Country and calendar year	Rubber	Cocoa, tea, and coffee	Drugs and spices	Vegetable oil 1/	Cotton and other fibers 2/	Wool	Hides and skins	Tobacco unmfd.
	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.
Ethiopia:								
1953. . . .	0	29,543	135	182	0	0	2,656	0
1954. . . .	0	30,749	57	0	0	0	2,357	0
1955. . . .	0	27,520	3	1	0	0	2,983	0
1956. . . .	0	18,941	0	0	0	0	2,769	0
Union of South Africa:								
1953. . . .	26	153	72	566	564	17,513	680	0
1954. . . .	19	25	67	0	678	20,468	401	0
1955. . . .	51	13	79	495	642	20,852	640	0
1956. . . .	0	0	133	0	19	14,202	601	0
Egypt:								
1953. . . .	0	0	57	45	22,611	337	59	0
1954. . . .	0	0	20	62	16,381	454	84	0
1955. . . .	51	0	17	129	21,446	232	120	0
1956. . . .	0	0	0	50	10,997	33	185	0
Madagascar:								
1953. . . .	0	0	3,599	770	260	0	0	0
1954. . . .	0	3,039	5,406	1,529	664	0	0	0
1955. . . .	0	4,560	4,724	1,238	154	0	0	0
1956. . . .	0	5,105	5,035	706	114	0	0	0
Cameroons:								
1953. . . .	71	5,593	5	2	0	0	0	0
1954. . . .	19	12,280	0	1	0	0	0	0
1955. . . .	384	9,891	4	22	0	0	0	0
1956. . . .	1,086	4,799	0	0	0	0	0	0
Morocco:								
1953. . . .	0	5	159	62	64	14	143	0
1954. . . .	0	0	53	20	60	0	164	0
1955. . . .	0	0	134	804	53	0	252	0
1956. . . .	0	0	85	15	13	21	516	0
Mozambique:								
1953. . . .	1	781	12	202	2,212	0	5	0
1954. . . .	0	1,604	0	0	2,039	0	5	0
1955. . . .	0	914	7	29	1,535	0	9	0
1956. . . .	67	495	0	0	1,152	0	0	0
Algeria:								
1953. . . .	0	0	2	191	0	(3/)	52	0
1954. . . .	0	0	0	972	0	8	82	0
1955. . . .	0	0	9	1,152	1	0	12	0
1956. . . .	0	0	0	322	0	0	0	0
Others:								
1953. . . .	1	4,047	205	1,362	1,137	(3/)	2,429	195
1954. . . .	0	4,835	205	1,743	2,224	30	1,469	93
1955. . . .	47	902	318	1,723	383	(3/)	1,564	13
1956. . . .	102	2,224	126	132	665	(3/)	1,848	0
Total Africa:								
1953. . . .	26,517	181,717	10,165	9,035	46,512	17,864	11,678	195
1954. . . .	22,112	235,453	8,866	10,143	28,673	20,960	8,164	93
1955. . . .	36,973	208,585	9,486	13,523	29,161	21,084	11,933	13
1956. . . .	40,049	204,336	8,873	9,057	15,564	14,272	11,980	0

1/ Includes oilseeds, vegetable oils, fats, and edible and inedible waxes. 2/ Includes cotton, sisal, henequen, flax, hemp, and other vegetable fibers. 3/ Less than $500.00

Summary: West Asia and Africa have provided an increasing market for U. S. agricultural exports. Shipments of agricultural products to these areas reached a peak of $235 million in 1956. While this was only 5.7 percent of our total farm exports, it was more than three times the amount taken by these countries in 1950.

The greatest expansion in demand for these commodities has been in West Asia. Shipments to this region, valued at $53 million during the 1950-54 period, had increased to $114 million by 1956. While the amount going to Africa has not increased at the same rate as that to West Asia, it has shown a substantial growth since prewar years. During the 1935-39 period U. S. agricultural

TABLE 7.--Total trade: United States with West Asia

Country 2/	United States exports											
	Agriculture			Nonagricultural		Total						
	Average 1950-54	1955	1956	Average 1950-54	1956	Average 1950-54	Percent Agri.	1955	Percent Agri.	1956	Percent Agri.
West Asia:	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Turkey	3,494	28,616	35,792	61,920	73,142	65,414	5	95,590	30	108,934	33
Saudi Arabia	6,629	6,429	7,531	52,957	66,817	59,586	11	69,004	9	74,348	10
Kuwait	279	766	785	10,114	29,862	10,393	3	15,608	5	30,647	3
Iran	877	3,535	9,573	29,409	66,787	30,286	3	53,471	7	76,360	13
Israel	32,573	45,094	47,508	54,127	45,268	86,700	38	87,718	51	92,776	51
Iraq	306	640	780	20,597	35,624	21,203	3	33,850	2	36,404	2
Lebanon	6,178	12,364	9,697	19,733	25,860	25,911	24	39,433	31	35,557	27
Syria	819	316	1,000	15,319	16,800	16,138	5	19,447	2	17,800	6
State of Bahrein	317	773	876	8,225	7,069	8,542	4	7,582	10	7,945	11
Jordan	606	1,556	717	1,842	3,961	2,448	25	6,285	25	4,678	15
Others	505	283	213	4,645	3,866	5,150	10	3,865	7	4,079	5
Total	52,883	100,372	114,472	278,888	375,056	331,771	16	431,903	23	489,528	23
Africa:											
Union of So. Africa	13,238	12,125	13,039	189,835	247,030	203,073	7	260,434	5	260,069	5
Belgian Congo	3,285	3,743	4,389	52,325	52,924	55,610	6	53,404	7	57,313	8
Egypt	22,223	33,842	48,527	35,038	48,041	57,261	39	78,477	43	96,568	50
Liberia	1,254	2,298	2,526	32,624	27,855	33,878	4	21,289	11	30,381	8
Ghana	4,159	4,808	4,206	3,091	4,065	7,250	57	7,350	65	8,271	51
Federation of Rhodesia & Nyasaland	266	528	1,077	9,156	14,475	9,422	3	12,234	4	15,552	7
Nigeria	4,839	6,506	6,869	4,096	5,536	8,935	54	11,210	58	12,455	55
Angola	1,039	1,524	1,260	8,443	13,898	9,482	11	11,516	13	15,158	8
French W.Africa	615	1,356	5,557	10,996	13,130	11,611	5	13,968	10	18,687	30
British E. Africa	1,679	1,139	991	6,401	6,722	8,080	21	9,490	12	7,713	13
Morocco	4,104	3,364	9,323	26,381	24,899	30,485	13	31,123	11	34,222	27
Ethiopia	1,062	793	601	3,930	3,778	4,992	21	5,208	15	4,379	14
Algeria	4,005	890	6,449	13,444	12,694	17,449	23	13,553	7	19,143	34
Mozambique	967	229	423	9,893	7,143	10,860	9	8,738	3	7,566	6
Tangier	712	748	634	12,391	11,397	13,103	5	10,926	7	12,031	5
Cameroons	168	269	294	4,300	4,973	4,468	4	5,733	5	5,267	6
Tunisia	659	319	5,741	5,969	3,691	6,628	10	4,228	8	9,432	61
Libya	262	2,589	2,547	324	5,182	586	45	3,595	72	7,729	33
Canary Islands	2,574	4,504	2,986	1,617	2,707	4,191	61	5,502	82	5,693	52
Sudan	4	464	50	1,567	789	1,571	(3/)	1,470	32	839	6
Other British W. Africa	329	458	533	414	986	743	44	951	48	1,519	35
French Somaliland	94	348	278	988	676	1,082	9	1,172	30	954	29
Others	1,969	742	2,601	10,285	18,386	12,254	16	15,601	5	20,987	12
Total	69,506	83,586	120,901	443,508	531,027	513,014	14	587,172	14	651,928	19

1/ -, U. S. imports exceeds exports. 2/ Listed in order of total trade for 1956. 3/ Less than $500.00

exports to that continent were valued at slightly over $8 million and by 1956 this figure had risen to $121 million.

This increase to West Asia consists principally of grains, dairy products, and fats and oils. With the addition of cotton these same three commodity groups accounted for most of the gain for Africa.

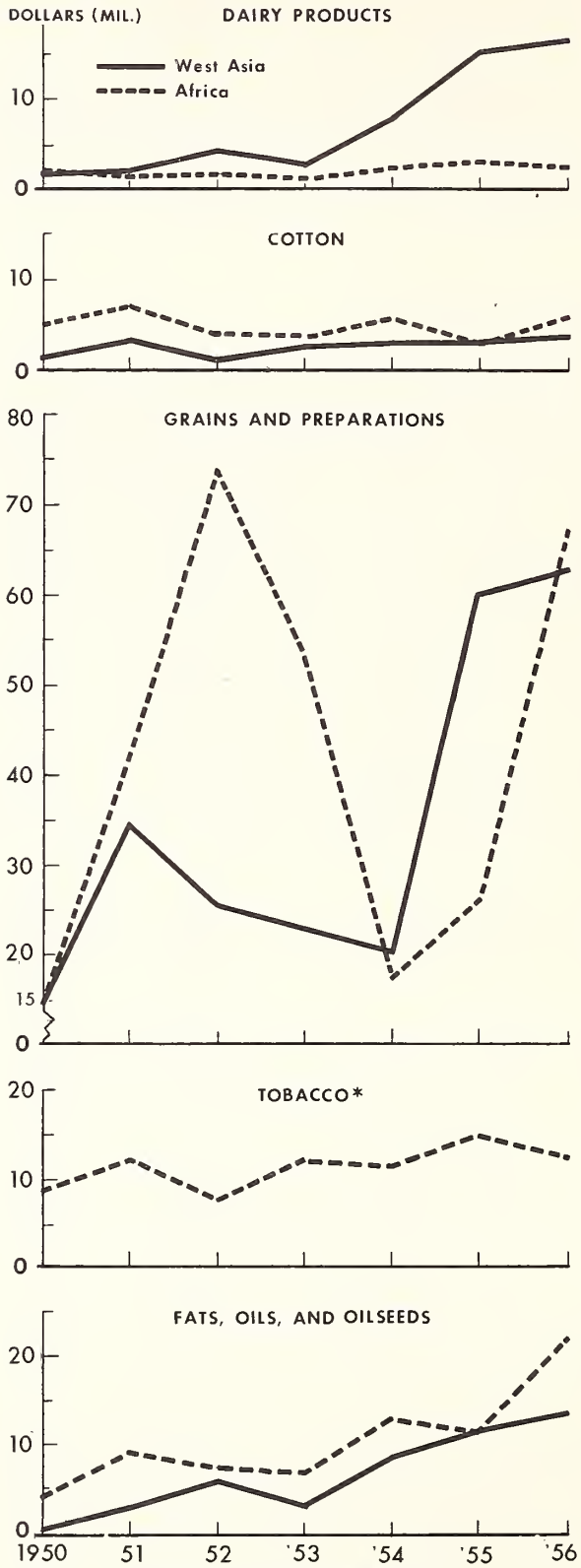
Eleven percent of all U. S. agricultural imports in 1956 were from West Asia and Africa, valued at $416 million. This was 17 percent below the 1951 value when imports from these countries were at an alltime high. On a commodity basis, tobacco and wool were the most important commodities received from West Asia; cocoa beans, coffee, and rubber the most important ones from Africa.

and Africa, averages 1950-54, annual 1955 and 1956

United States imports												Trade Balance 1/	
Agricultural			Non-agricultural		Total								
Average 1950-54	1955	1956	Average 1950-54	1956	Average 1950-54	Percent Agri.	1955	Percent Agri.	1956	Percent Agri.	Average 1950-54	1956
1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	Percent		Percent		Percent	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.
45,600	47,301	50,324	18,794	22,992	64,394	71	62,547	76	73,316	69	1,020	35,618
115	38	189	45,687	73,835	45,802	(5/)	56,333	(5/)	74,024	(5/)	13,784	324
62	0	0	50,799	93,622	50,861	(5/)	95,329	0	93,622	(5/)	- 40,468	- 62,975
13,800	20,496	18,849	11,127	18,392	24,927	55	33,205	62	37,241	51	5,359	39,119
315	468	474	11,148	18,465	11,463	3	17,208	3	18,939	3	75,237	73,837
11,800	13,703	14,610	2,702	25,222	14,502	81	31,602	43	39,832	37	6,701	- 3,428
4,000	2,790	3,547	559	914	4,559	88	4,559	61	4,461	80	21,352	31,096
11,400	10,878	10,439	174	1,449	11,574	98	11,306	96	11,888	88	4,564	5,912
58	0	0	1,318	3,771	1,376	4	529	0	3,771	(5/)	7,166	4,174
(3/)	(3/)	1	19	93	19	(5/)	53	(5/)	94	5	2,429	4,584
2,380	4,293	4,609	2,689	12,515	5,069	47	16,446	26	17,124	27	81	- 13,045
89,530	99,967	103,042	145,016	271,270	234,546	38	329,117	30	374,312	28	97,225	115,216
31,800	24,063	15,645	79,946	87,801	111,746	28	87,349	28	103,446	15	91,327	156,623
24,600	37,351	40,527	50,690	74,138	75,290	33	107,865	35	114,665	35	- 19,680	- 57,352
24,800	22,672	12,049	2,295	2,751	27,095	92	25,587	89	14,800	81	30,166	81,768
27,700	31,813	30,167	4,244	13,141	31,944	87	39,788	80	43,308	70	1,934	- 12,927
53,900	36,913	30,565	14,144	17,374	68,044	79	54,585	68	47,939	64	- 60,794	- 39,668
4/ 488	426	175	41,550	39,821	42,038	1	65,968	1	39,996	(5/)	- 32,616	- 24,444
38,100	22,734	35,391	4,032	6,624	42,132	90	35,915	63	42,015	84	- 33,197	- 29,560
27,400	28,960	33,440	4,587	2,471	31,987	86	31,859	91	35,911	93	- 22,505	- 20,753
11,700	30,530	26,669	31	1,986	11,731	(6/)	32,025	95	28,655	93	- 120	- 9,968
35,000	37,078	35,574	1,946	1,334	36,946	95	38,387	97	36,908	96	- 28,866	- 29,195
2,200	3,411	2,839	6,869	7,023	9,069	24	12,786	27	9,862	29	21,416	24,360
23,300	31,059	23,957	226	309	23,526	99	31,224	99	24,266	99	- 18,534	- 19,887
907	1,720	731	4,211	2,038	5,118	18	5,805	30	2,769	26	12,331	16,374
4,100	3,083	2,414	792	2,595	4,892	84	4,466	69	5,009	48	5,968	2,557
4/ 117	48	88	42	177	159	74	109	44	265	33	12,944	11,766
6,200	10,309	5,802	97	104	6,297	98	10,354	(6/)	5,906	98	- 1,829	- 639
1,037	1,647	75	660	685	1,697	61	2,219	74	760	10	4,931	8,672
4/ 22	1	(3/)	19	31	41	54	4	25	31	(5/)	545	7,698
4/ 26	2	(3/)	105	96	131	20	42	5	96	(5/)	4,060	5,597
1,130	754	1,120	1,773	2,799	2,903	39	3,358	22	3,919	29	- 1,332	- 3,080
797	732	1,061	2,027	1,215	2,824	28	1,611	45	2,276	47	- 2,081	- 757
4/ 38	25	43	19	7	57	67	28	89	50	86	1,025	904
13,738	15,676	15,098	5,327	8,757	19,065	72	22,661	69	23,855	63	- 6,811	- 2,868
329,100	341,007	313,430	225,632	273,277	554,732	59	613,995	56	586,707	53	- 41,718	65,221

4/ Less than five-year average (1952-54. 5/ Less than 0.5 percent. 6/ More than 99.5 percent

U. S. EXPORTS OF SOME PRINCIPAL FARM PRODUCTS TO WEST ASIA AND AFRICA



*TOBACCO EXPORTS TO WEST ASIA AVERAGED $819,000 FOR THE 7 YEARS, 1950-1956

USDA

FAS-NEG. 1512